

*Blank*

5. (Amended) Distributor box according to Claim 1, wherein a second upper housing compartment defines a closed spatial region.

6. (Amended) Distributor box according to Claim 1, wherein a third upper housing compartment comprises an electronic circuit that can be electrically connected to at least the system bus and brake leads.

7. (Amended) Distributor box according to Claim 1, wherein the lower housing compartment comprises a braking resistance of a converter and the braking resistance is connected to the electronic circuit of the third upper housing compartment.

8. (Amended) Distributor box according to Claim 1, wherein the transfer pin-and-socket connector in each case constitutes the only electrical connection between the cabling in the lower housing compartment and the electronic circuit in the associated upper housing compartment.

9. (Amended) Distributor box according to Claim 1, wherein the transfer pin-and-socket connector device in each case and a ground-connection cable constitute the only electrical connection between the cabling in the lower housing compartment and the electronic circuit in the associated upper housing compartment.

10. (Amended) Distributor box according to Claim 1, wherein the set of field-bus leads and/or control-bus leads also includes leads for supply voltages.

11. (Amended) Distributor box according to Claim 1, wherein the lower housing compartment comprises a motor-protection switch, in particular for the electrical disconnection of high tension leads.

13. (Amended) Distributor box according to Claim 1, wherein the electronic circuit is designed so as to be addressable as a bus participant and can filter out from the field bus data that are destined for this address and translate them into a control-bus protocol and send the result by way of the control bus to the field mechanism or mechanisms supplied from the distributor box.

14. (Amended) Distributor box according to Claim 1, wherein the electronic circuit comprises settable switches, such as DIP switches or the like, with which to set the field-bus address.

15. (Amended) Distributor box according to Claim 1, wherein at least one upper housing compartment comprises connector devices for the connection of external sensors and/or actuators.

16. (Amended) Distributor box according to Claim 1, wherein at least one upper housing compartment comprises a connector device for a control unit, in particular a computing device such as a PC or the like, in particular for balancing SPS programs, control programs, data or the like and/or devices for outputting and/or displaying data such as the states of sensors, actuators or drive mechanisms.

17. (Amended) Distributor box according to Claim 1, wherein at least one upper housing compartment comprises display devices such as LEDs and/or LCD displays or the like.

18. (Amended) Distributor box according to Claim 1, wherein at least one upper housing compartment comprises control elements such as keys, push-buttons, rotating knobs or the like for input and/or for controlling processes.

---

21. (Amended) Distributor box according to Claim 19, wherein the housing is constructed at least in part for giving off heat, in particular comprises cooling fingers and/or cooling ribs.